

County of Los Angeles  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**

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May 29, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION TO RENEW THE  
GAIN VOCATIONAL INTERMEDIARY AND DIRECT SERVICES AGREEMENT  
(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to renew the Agreement, substantially similar to the enclosed agreement, with the City of Hawthorne for the provision of GAIN Vocational Intermediary and Direct Services to Welfare-to-Work (WtW) participants, effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010 at an estimated three-year cost of \$24,283,082 funded by CalWORKs Single Allocation.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or his designee to prepare and sign amendments to the Agreement, for any cumulative increase or decrease of no more than 20 percent of the original Agreement amount when the change is necessitated by additional and necessary services that are required for the contractor to comply with changes in Federal, State, or County requirements. The approval of County Counsel and the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) will be obtained prior to executing such amendments.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Board approval of the recommendation will allow DPSS to continue the seamless delivery of services to WtW participants offered in the current Agreement, which expires on June 30, 2007. The City of Hawthorne under the GAIN Vocational Intermediary and Direct Services Agreement will continue to develop and maintain service provider directories accessed by GAIN Services Workers to refer WtW participants for vocational/academic training, work experience and supportive services. Also, the City of Hawthorne will continue to provide intermediary services to administer subcontracted non-salaried work experience and Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) in order to assist WtW participants to secure unsubsidized career-ladder employment that will lead to self-sufficiency.

On March 4, 2003, the Board approved the implementation plan for the TSE program, which provides participants with paid work experience (PWE), on-the-job training (OJT) and vocational classroom training. On February 27, 2007, the Board expanded TSE to include work study to enable participants, enrolled in community colleges, to gain a minimum of 20 hours weekly of PWE in a public setting related to their course of study. The community colleges fund 75 percent of student wages and DPSS, utilizing CalWORKs Single Allocation, funds the remaining 25 percent and costs for payroll services. Since the program's inception, 2,935 participants have been enrolled in TSE, 2,147 (73%) have completed the program of whom 1,354 (63%) were placed into unsubsidized employment.

In an effort to provide PWE to a greater number of participants, TSE will be expanded to include Tier 1 and Tier 2 subsidized employment. Tier 1 subsidized employment consists of PWE, which targets, but is not exclusively for, specialized subpopulations such as the homeless, those that are limited English proficient (LEP), participants receiving specialized supportive services (mental health, substance abuse and domestic violence), and peer mentoring students. The City of Hawthorne as the employer of record provides payroll services.

Tier 2 subsidized employment consists of participants in PWE, OJT and/or vocational classroom training. One Stop Career Centers provide participants with co-case management, referral, job development, placement, and retention services. The homeless, LEP and specialized supportive services subpopulations are identified for tracking purposes and are assigned to a PWE activity. The hourly wage for PWE under both tiers is the California minimum wage, which is currently \$7.50 per hour and will be \$8 per hour effective January 1, 2008.

The enrollment projections for FY 07-08 are 614 for work study, 508 for Tier 1 and 678 for Tier 2. In contrast, the projected enrollment figures for FY 06-07 are 350 for work study and 662 for TSE. Therefore, TSE enrollment is projected to increase from 1,012 for FY 06-07 to 1,800 for FY 07-08.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal #3: Organizational Effectiveness, to ensure that service delivery systems are efficient, effective and goal-oriented; and Goal #5: Children and Families' Well-Being, to improve the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County as measured by the achievements in the five outcome areas adopted by the Board: good health; economic well-being; safety and survival; social and emotional well-being; and educational/workforce readiness.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The maximum amount for the three-year renewal of the GAIN Vocational Intermediary and Direct Services Agreement is \$24,283,082 funded through CalWORKs Single Allocation. There is no additional net County cost impact after the required CalWORKs Maintenance of Effort is met. The amount of \$8,038,795 for FY 07-08 is included in the Department's FY 07-08 Proposed Budget. Funding for future fiscal years will be included in the Department's budget requests.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The CAO has approved this letter. County Counsel has approved the enclosed agreement as to form.

The award of this Agreement will not result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and will be in full compliance with Federal, State and County regulations.

#### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The California Department of Social Services Purchase of Service Regulations state that contracts may be negotiated without formal advertising for any service rendered by a local government agency, public university, public college or other public educational institution.

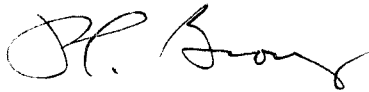
**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

The recommended action will not infringe on the role of the County in relationship to its residents and the County's ability to respond to emergencies will not be impaired. There is no change in risk exposure to the County.

**CONCLUSION**

The Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted, stamped Board letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. L. Browning", is written above the printed name.

Philip L. Browning, Director

PB:ko

Enclosure

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors